



SHOCKING

AND
NO. 52
10¢

MYSTERY

14513



THE FANFARE SOUNDS AS TWO FIGURES HURTLE TOWARD EACH OTHER THROUGH THE DIZZY HEIGHTS OF THE BIG TOP... SUDDENLY THE CROWD GASPS IN HORROR AS A KNIFE FLASHES IN THE BLINDING SPOTLIGHT GLARE... ONCE AGAIN THERE WAS TO BE A VICTIM OF....

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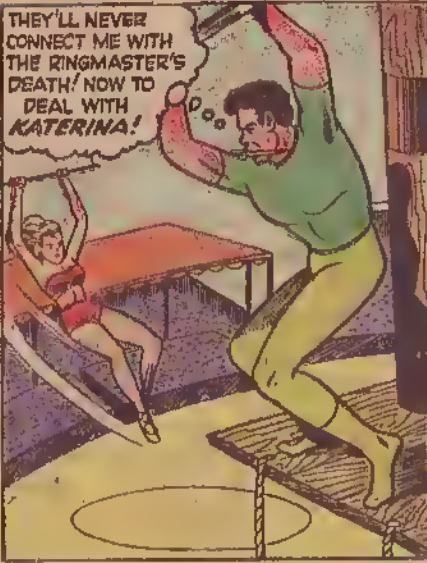
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THAT NIGHT UNDER
THE BIG TOP,
ALI BEN MAXON
THE
**CARNIVAL
KILLER**
AWAITS HIS
CUE...

THEY'LL NEVER
CONNECT ME WITH
THE RINGMASTER'S
DEATH! NOW TO
DEAL WITH
KATERINA!

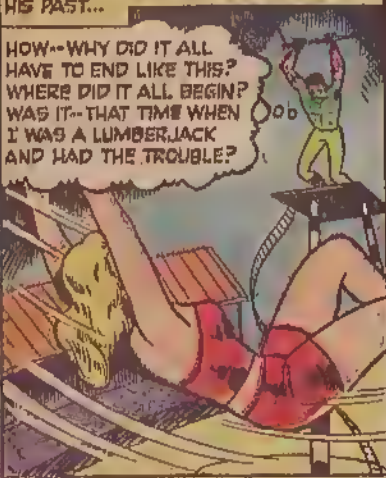


YOU ONCE PLANNED
TO MURDER **ME!**
KATERINA! NOW
IT'S MY TURN!
YOU'LL GET THE
SAME AS YOUR
FRIEND!



BUT IN THE FEW SECONDS BEFORE HIS
DIVE, ALI BEN MAXON'S MIND, LIKE
THAT OF A DROWNING MAN, REVIEWED
HIS PAST...

HOW--WHY DID IT ALL
HAVE TO END LIKE THIS?
WHERE DID IT ALL BEGIN?
WAS IT--THAT TIME WHEN
I WAS A LUMBERJACK
AND HAD THE TROUBLE?



TWO YEARS BEFORE...

SOMEBODY
OUGHT TO
STOP IT!
HE'S KILLING
HIM!

YOU TRY IT! I
HAD ONE FIGHT
WITH **BLACK
JACK** AND
THAT WAS
ENOUGH FOR
ME!



LET ME AT HIM!
I'M NOT AFRAID OF
BLACK JACK! I'M
NOT GOING TO STAND
HERE AND SEE HIM
MURDER THAT KID!

DON'T DO
IT, ALI!
HE'LL KILL
YOU, TOO!



LAY OFF, **BLACK JACK!**
THE KID'S HAD ENOUGH!
YOU TRYING TO KILL
HIM?

YOU STUPID
PIG! YOU'LL
REGRET
BUTTING IN!

OHHH!



HOW DOES IT TASTE--
A FISTFUL OF
KNUCKLES!

AGH!





GET UP, ALI, OR
I'LL MASH YOUR
FACE IN!

MAYBE I CAN'T BEAT YOU
WITH FISTS, BLACK JACK!
BUT I DARE YOU TO GO
OUT ON THE LOGS WITH
ME--WITH BARBED
POLES!



SURE, I'LL GO OUT ON
THE LOGS, ALI! BUT
ONLY ONE OF US
IS COMING BACK!

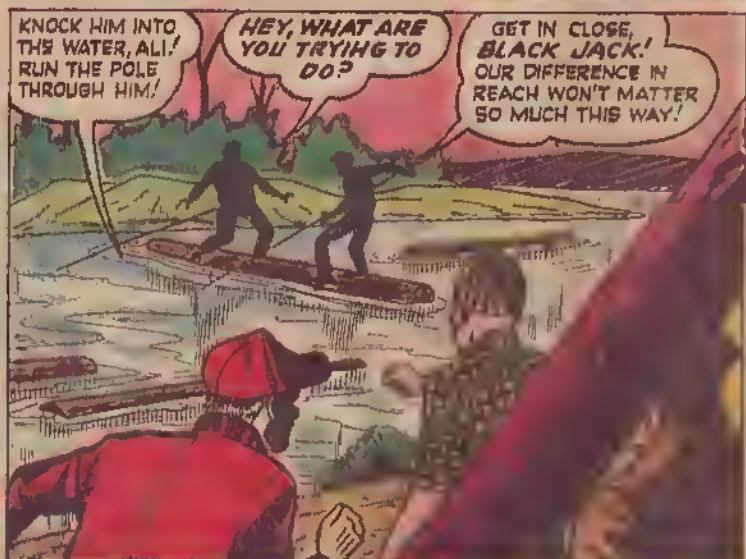
YOU'RE RIGHT,
BLACK JACK!



FIVE MINUTES LATER, AT THE RIVER
BANK...

AGH! YOU
LITTLE RUNT!
YOU WON'T
LAST LONG!

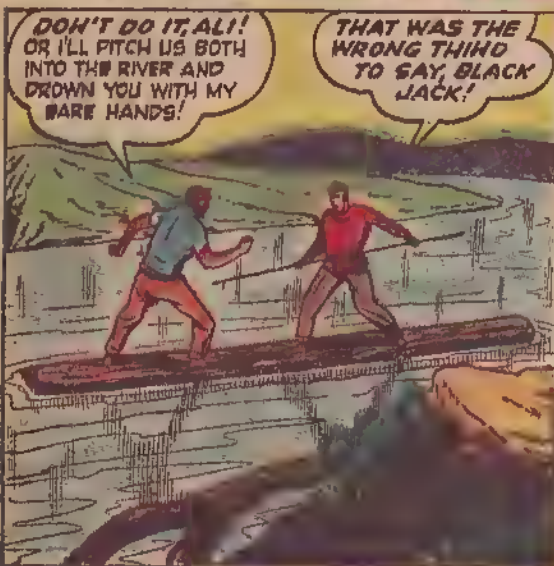
YOU CLUMSY
FOOL! YOU
COULDN'T PUT
THAT POLE THROUGH
A GIANT REDWOOD
UNLESS SOMEBODY
GUIDED IT FOR
YOU!



KNOCK HIM INTO
THE WATER, ALI!
RUN THE POLE
THROUGH HIM!

HEY, WHAT ARE
YOU TRYING TO
DO?

GET IN CLOSE,
BLACK JACK!
OUR DIFFERENCE IN
REACH WON'T MATTER
SO MUCH THIS WAY!



DON'T DO IT, ALI!
OR I'LL PITCH US BOTH
INTO THE RIVER AND
DROWN YOU WITH MY
BARE HANDS!

THAT WAS THE
WRONG THING
TO SAY, BLACK
JACK!



NO ONE FROM THE
CAMP CAN SEE US
HERE! WE'RE AROUND
THE BEND OF THE
RIVER!

NO, ALI! DON'T
DO IT...
AGGHHHR!

SECONDS LATER...

I CAN'T STAY HERE ANY LONGER! EVEN IF THEY DIDN'T SEE ME DO IT, THEY'LL FIND BLACK JACK'S BODY! THE SHERIFF WON'T ASK ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT STRINGING ME UP!



MY ONLY CHANCE IS TO GET OUT OF THIS SECTION OF THE COUNTRY, AND DO IT FAST! I CAN RIDE THE TRAILS EAST AND LOSE MYSELF THERE!



AS NIGHT FELL, ALI BEN MAXON CRAWLED SILENTLY UP A RAILROAD EMBAKMENT...

SHE'LL HAVE TO SLOW DOWN BY THE TIME SHE REACHES THE TOP OF THE GRADE! THEN I'LL HOP HER!



BY TOMORROW, I'LL BE MILES FROM HERE!



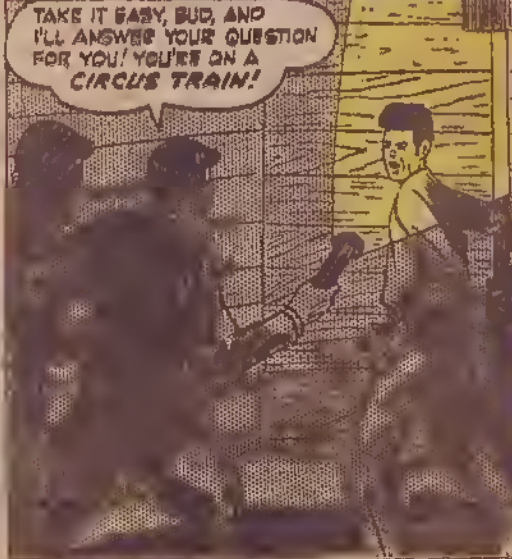
THERE'S SOMETHING IN HERE! I CAN HEAR IT BREATHING AND MOVING AROUND! BUT IT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE ANYTHING HUMAN!



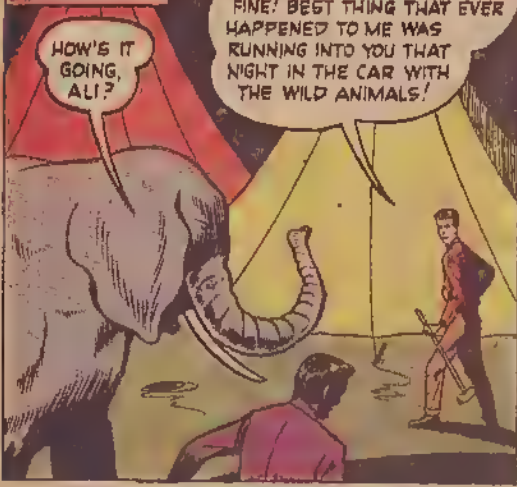
A LION! I MUST BE SEEING THINGS! WHAT WOULD A LION BE DOING LOCKED UP IN A CAGE IN A FREIGHT CAR! WHAT KIND OF TRAIN IS THIS?



TAKE IT EASY, BUD, AND I'LL ANSWER YOUR QUESTION FOR YOU! YOU'RE ON A CIRCUS TRAIN!



ALI BEN MAXON WAS BEFRIENDED BY THE ANIMAL TRAINER, WHO GOT HIM A JOB WITH THE CIRCUS AS A ROUSTABOUT...

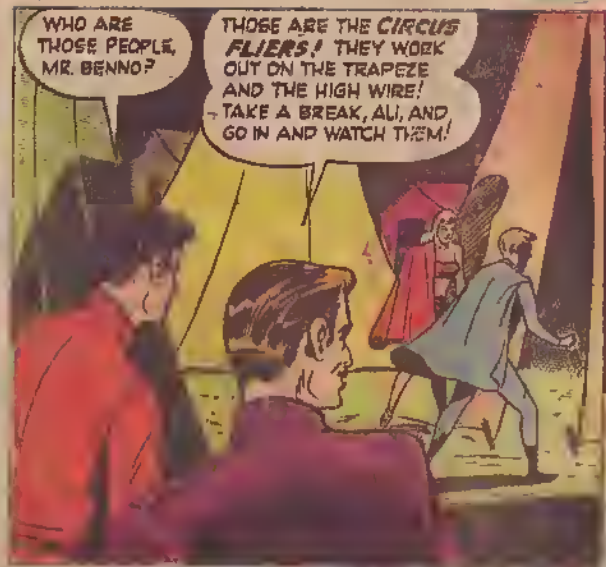


HOW'S IT GOING, ALI?

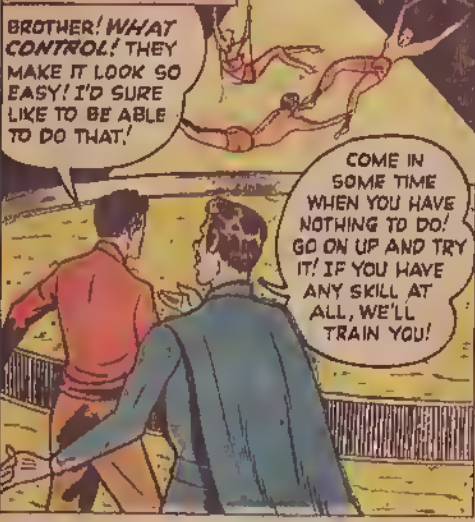
FINE! BEST THING THAT EVER HAPPENED TO ME WAS RUNNING INTO YOU THAT NIGHT IN THE CAR WITH THE WILD ANIMALS!

WHO ARE THOSE PEOPLE, MR. BENNO?

THOSE ARE THE **CIRCUS FLIERS!** THEY WORK OUT ON THE TRAPEZE AND THE HIGH WIRE! TAKE A BREAK, ALI, AND GO IN AND WATCH THEM!



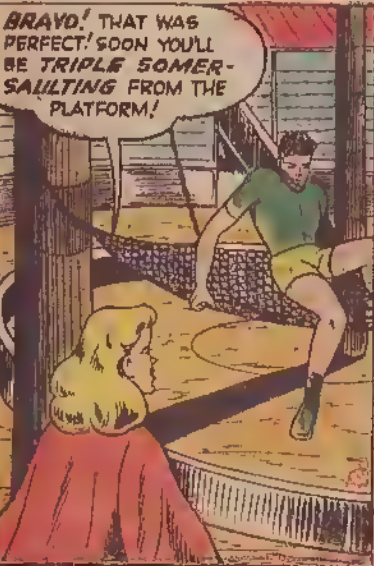
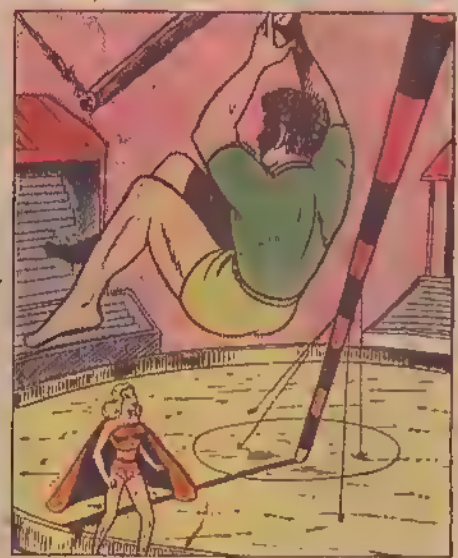
INSIDE THE BIG TENT...



BROTHER! WHAT CONTROL! THEY MAKE IT LOOK SO EASY! I'D SURE LIKE TO BE ABLE TO DO THAT!

COME IN SOME TIME WHEN YOU HAVE NOTHING TO DO! GO ON UP AND TRY IT! IF YOU HAVE ANY SKILL AT ALL, WE'LL TRAIN YOU!

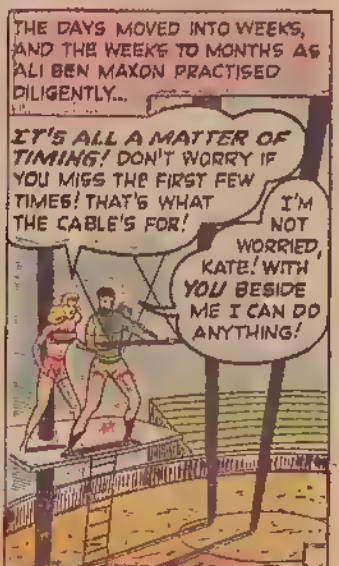
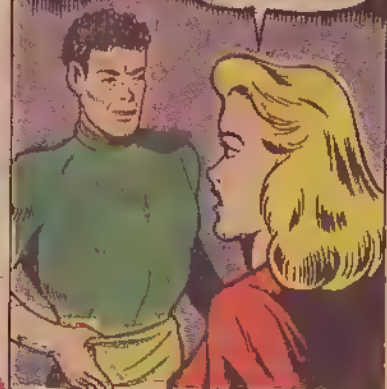
THE SENSE OF BALANCE HE HAD ACQUIRED FROM LOG-ROLLING AS A LUMBERJACK STOOD ALI IN GOOD STEAD! IN A SHORT TIME HE WAS WORKING OUT REGULARLY WITH THE AERIAL CREW...



BRAYO! THAT WAS PERFECT! SOON YOU'LL BE **TRIPLE SOMER-SALTING** FROM THE PLATFORM!

THANKS! IT'S NICE OF YOU TO SAY THAT! BUT I'M STILL JUST A BEGINNER!

THAT'S TRUE-- BUT YOU HAVE AN INBORN ABILITY TO FLY! EVERYONE WHO'S WATCHED YOU SAYS THE SAME THING!

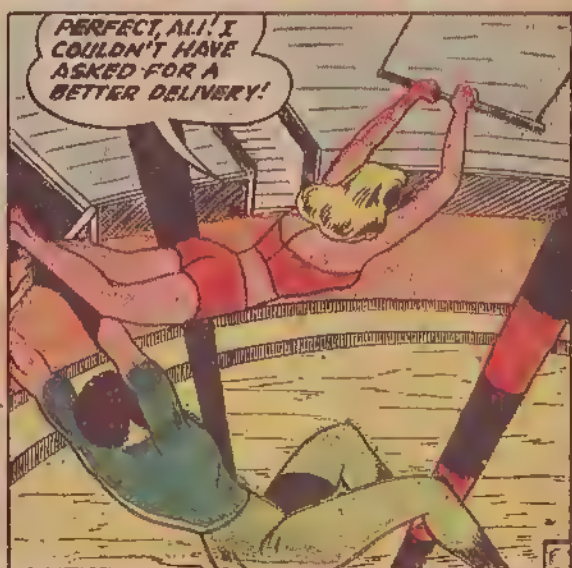
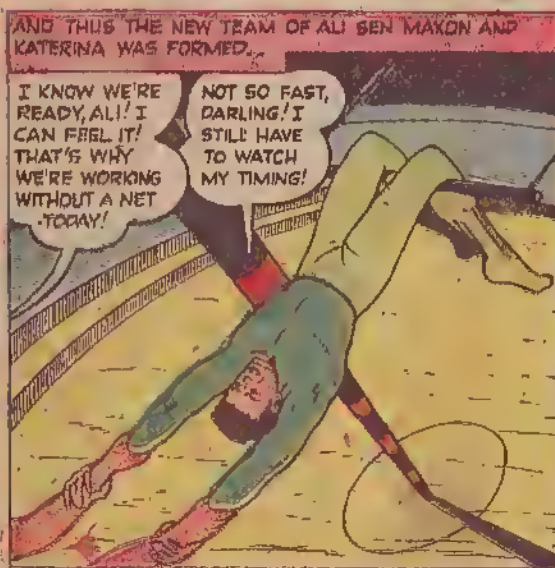
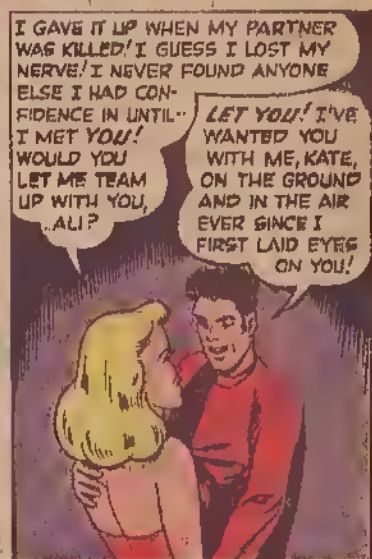


THE DAYS MOVED INTO WEEKS, AND THE WEEKS TO MONTHS AS ALI BEN MAXON PRACTISED DILIGENTLY...

IT'S ALL A MATTER OF TIMING! DON'T WORRY IF YOU MISS THE FIRST FEW TIMES! THAT'S WHAT THE CABLE'S FOR!

I'M NOT WORRIED, KATE! WITH YOU BESIDE ME I CAN DO ANYTHING!

THEN ONE NIGHT ON THE CIRCUS LOT A STRANGE THING HAPPENED TO ALI BEN MAXON...



THE DAY BEFORE THEIR FIRST PERFORMANCE, KATERINA ASKED ALI TO SIGN SOME PAPERS...

IT'S ONLY A FORMALITY, DEAREST! ALL FLIERS WHO WORK AS A TEAM INSURE EACH OTHER! THIS WAY WE'RE BOTH PROTECTED!

SEEMS LIKE A GOOD IDEA!

YOU AND I WILL NEVER NEED THAT INSURANCE, DARLING! IT'S JUST ONE OF THOSE THINGS WE CAN FORGET ABOUT IT NOW!

RIGHT, KATE! I'LL SEE YOU TONIGHT THEN! **OUR FIRST PERFORMANCE TOGETHER BEFORE THE BIG CROWD!**

THAT NIGHT...

GO! GO, ALI! SHOW THEM WHAT YOU CAN DO! I'LL BE WITH YOU IN A MOMENT!

THE TEAM OF MAXON AND KATERINA PLAYED BRILLIANTLY TO MANY AUDIENCES, UNTIL ONE NIGHT IN FEBRUARY, 1936 WHEN THE FIRST MISHAP OCCURRED...

KATE! KATE! MY BAR IS BROKEN! I'LL BE KILLED!

WITH A SUPERHUMAN TWISTING MOTION, ALI THREW HIS BODY UP IN THE AIR, FLYING ON THE IRON GRIP OF HIS LEFT HAND ON THE TRAPEZE BAR...

KATE! KATE! HELP ME!

DON'T WORRY, ALI!

I MADE IT KATE! HOLD ON TIGHT! DON'T LET GO!

WE'LL WORK UP MOMENTUM AND THEN I'LL FLIP YOU BACK ON THE PLATFORM!

YES, KATE!

DID I IMAGINE IT-- OR DID KATE TRY TO PULL HER HAND AWAY FROM ME? NO... NO... I MUST BE WRONG!

LATER, THAT NIGHT, ALI BEN MAXON WENT TO VISIT KATERINA...

I'D BETTER WAIT A MOMENT-- SHE'S WITH THE RINGMASTER!

FOOL! YOU RUINED EVERYTHING TODAY!

IF YOU HADN'T LET MAXON GRAB YOUR WRIST HE WOULD HAVE BEEN KILLED! THEN WE COULD HAVE COLLECTED THE INSURANCE THE WAY WE DID ON YOUR OTHER PARTNER!

SO THAT'S IT! I WAS RIGHT ABOUT HER HAND! WELL, ALI BEN MAXON IS THE LAST MAN YOU'LL MAKE A FOOL OF KATE! I'LL FIX YOU! I'LL FIX YOU BOTH!

AFTER BROODING FOR DAYS, ALI FINALLY COMPLETED HIS LETHAL PLAN...

WE'LL PRACTICE FIRST WITH THE BLADES TAPED UP, KATE, SO YOU WON'T CUT YOURSELF! AS SOON AS WE GET THE ACT DOWN PAT, WE'LL TAKE THE TAPS OFF!

IT BOUNCES PRETTY RISKY, ALI!

A FEW MINUTES LATER...

I GOT THE FIRST ONE!

HERE COMES THE SECOND! I TOLD YOU IT WAS EASY! AND IT'LL BE SOMETHING BRAND NEW IN AERIAL ACTS!

LOVING HER IS LIKE LOVING A SERPENT! IN HER MOUTH LIES THE KISS OF DEATH! BUT IF I CAN'T HAVE HER, NO ONE ELSE WILL! ONE OF THESE NIGHTS, A MERE SLIP OF THE KNIFE AND FAREWELL, MY LOVELY KATERINA!

ALI BEN MAXON BIDDED HIS TIME, BUT ALMOST TOO LONG, FOR ONE NIGHT THE RINGMASTER TOOK A HAND...

I CAN'T WAIT ANY LONGER FOR KATE TO DUMP ALI! I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF SHE CAN BE TRUSTED ANYMORE! IT'S BETTER TO DO IT MYSELF!



I SAWED THROUGH THAT BAR JUST ENOUGH SO IT WILL BREAK UNDER ALI'S WEIGHT AT THE TOP OF HIS SWING...WAIT...WHO'S THERE?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?



GOOD THING I CAME DOWN EARLY TONIGHT! OR ELSE YOU WOULD HAVE HAD A CHANCE TO MESS AROUND WITH THE EQUIPMENT! THAT'S WHAT YOU WERE HERE FOR! ISN'T IT?

GET OUT OF MY WAY BEFORE I RUN YOU OFF THE LOT!



TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF ME, YOU DIRTY RAT! I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE AFTER!

AGH!

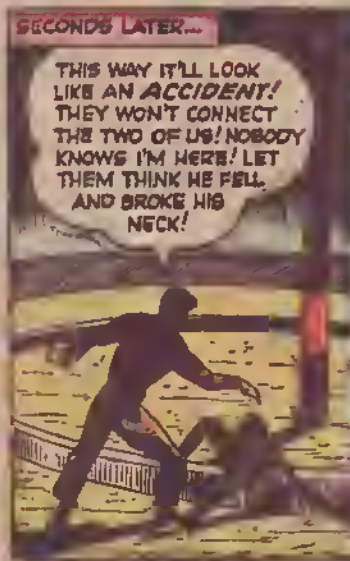


I'LL PAY YOU OFF FOR-- AGRR!

I'VE HANDLED A LOT TOUGHER THAN YOU!



TOO BAD! WELL, IT WAS EITHER HIM OR ME! I MUST HAVE BROKEN HIS NECK WITH THAT KICK! IF HE HADN'T GONE FOR THE GUN HE MIGHT STILL BE ALIVE!



SECONDS LATER...

THIS WAY IT'LL LOOK LIKE AN ACCIDENT! THEY WON'T CONNECT THE TWO OF US! NOBODY KNOWS I'M HERE! LET THEM THINK HE FELL AND BROKE HIS NECK!

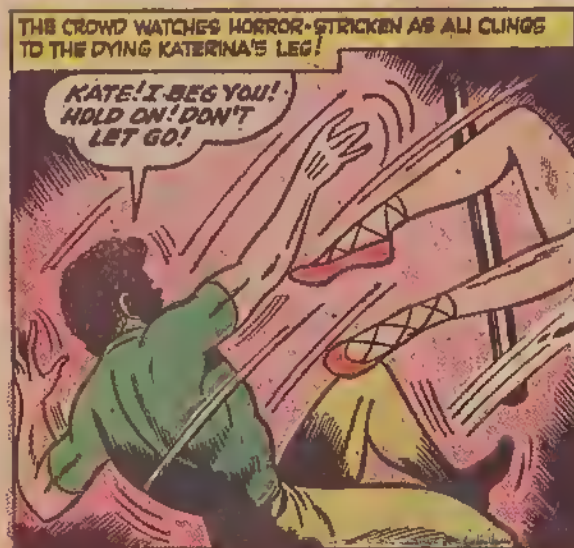
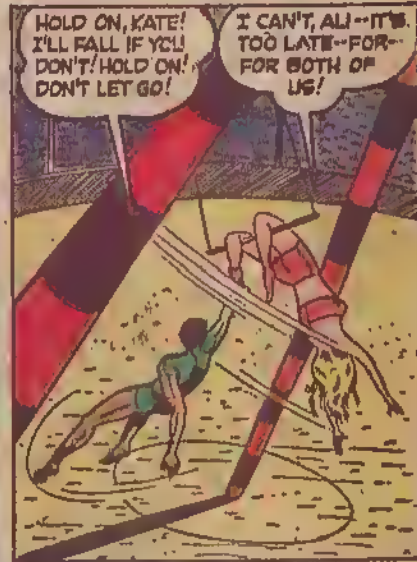


AND NOW FOR KATERINA... TONIGHT! BUT NOT WITH THIS LITTLE TOY! I'M SAVING THE KNIVES FOR HER!

HIGH! UNDER THE BIG TOP, ALI BEN MAXON
ACKNOWLEDGED HIS CUE...



FROM
OPPOSITE
ENDE OF
THE
HEAVENS,
KATE AND
ALI FLASH
TOWARD
EACH OTHER!
HE THROWS
THE KNIFE
AND IT
HURTTLES
TOWARD
KATE FROM
HIS HAND!



MURDER and ROSES

STRANGE CLUES HAVE OFTEN GIVEN DETECTIVES LEADS TO SOLVING MURDERS! THEY ARE TRAINED TO USE THEIR EYES AND EARS, BUT THIS IS THE STORY OF A SMART COP WHO USED HIS NOSE TO SOLVE A CRIME!!



TOM JEDDY, OWNER OF A CHICAGO JEWELRY STORE HAD BEEN SHOT! BEFORE HE DIED, HE TRIED TO CALL THE POLICE, BUT DEATH WON THAT RACE!

WHEN THE TELEPHONE OPERATOR GOT NO ANSWER SHE BECAME SUSPICIOUS AND CALLED THE POLICE! THE DEPARTMENT SENT DETECTIVE TOM FEENEY TO THE SHOP TO INVESTIGATE!



FEENEY FOUND THE PROPRIETOR DEAD WITH THREE BULLET HOLES IN HIS BACK! THE CASH REGISTER AND STOCK SEEMED INTACT SO ROBBERY WASN'T THE MOTIVE!

THERE WAS A PECULIAR SMELL OF PERFUMES IN THE AIR, FEENEY SNIFFED SPECULATIVELY! WHERE HAD HE SMELLED IT BEFORE??? PERFUME? NO..NO, IT WAS BARBER SHOP TONIC!!



WHAT SMELL WAS THE ONLY CLUE THE KILLER LEFT, AND FEENEY PLEADED WITH THE CAPTAIN TO BE ALLOWED TO FOLLOW IT, THE CAPTAIN SNORTED A SMELL IS YOUR ONLY CLUE? FORGET THE CASE FEENEY, I'M PUTTING A NEW DETECTIVE ON THE JOB!



MURDER... ANY MURDER WAS IMPORTANT TO FEENEY... FINALLY THE CAPTAIN AGREED AND FEENEY STARTED OUT IN SEARCH OF A SCENT! HE WENT FROM BARBER SHOP TO BARBER SHOP SEARCHING FOR A ROSE SMELLING TONIC! THE BARBERS THOUGHT HE WAS CRAZY!



AFTER FOUR DAYS OF SNIFFING BOTTLES, FEENEY WAS SUCCESSFUL! HE FOUND THE ROSE TONIC... WHAT'S MORE THE BARBER REMEMBERED A STRANGE RED HAired MAN USING IT! THE MAN HAD COMPLAINED OF A SORE BACK SO FEENEY THOUGHT HE MIGHT BE A LABORER UNUSED TO HARD WORK!



AFTER CHECKING WITH PERSONNEL OFFICES IN ALL THE FACTORIES AND LABOR GANGS FEENEY FOUND HIS MAN! HE WAS YOUNG BOB GOLE... AND HE TRIED TO PULL A GUN ON FEENEY BUT FEENEY DEFT TRAINING GAVE HIM THE ADVANTAGE!

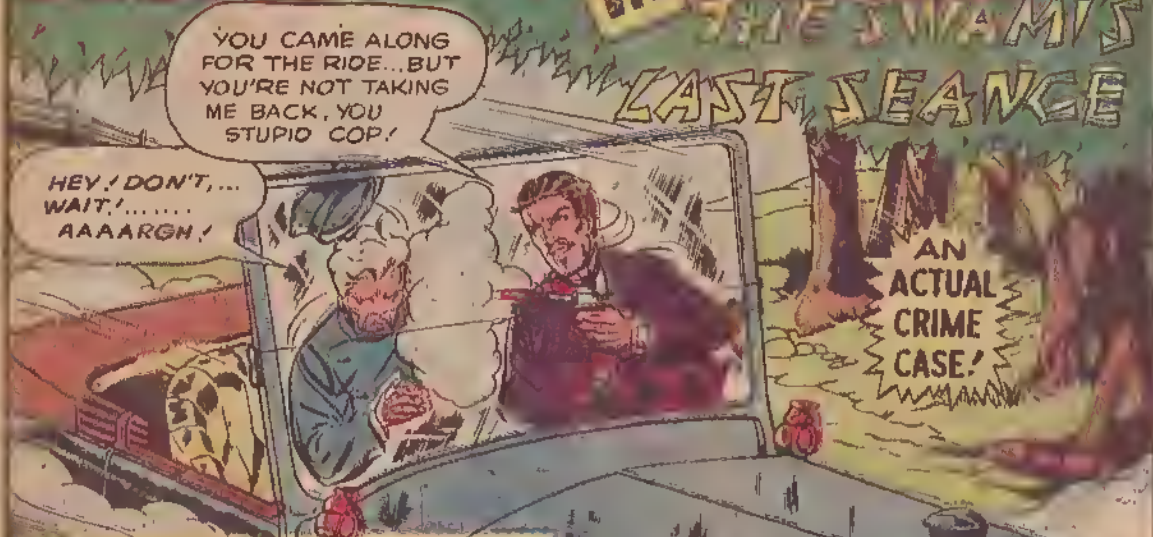


GOLE HAD INTENDED TO ROB THE JEWELRY SHOP BUT GOT SO SCARED KILLING THE OWNER HE RAN AWAY! THE IRONY WAS THAT WHEN HE ORIGINALLY TRIED TO PULL THE JOB, THERE WERE CUSTOMERS IN THE SHOP SO GOLE WENT TO THE BARBER TO KILL TIME! IT ALSO KILLED HIM, FOR IT GAVE FEENEY THE CLUE THAT SENTENCED HIM TO DEATH!!!

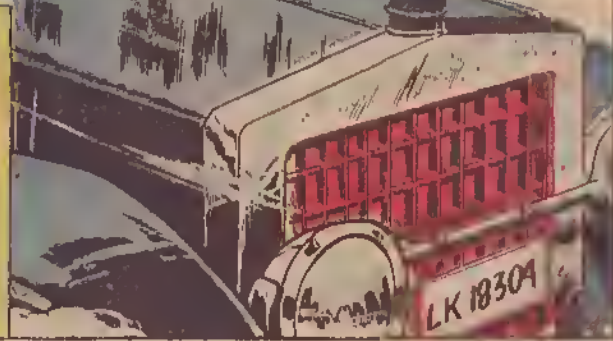


BRUNO GILLERS

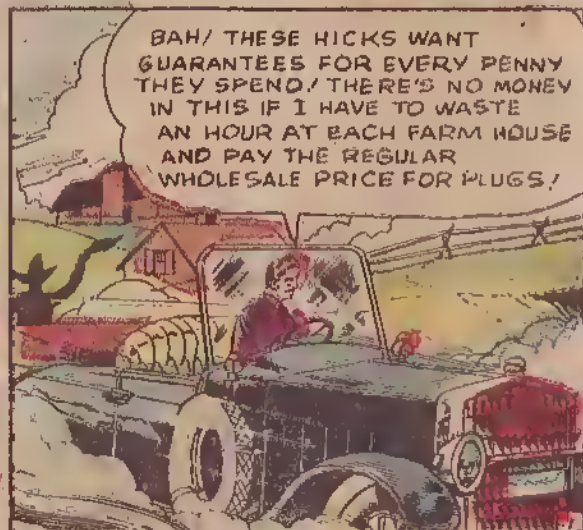
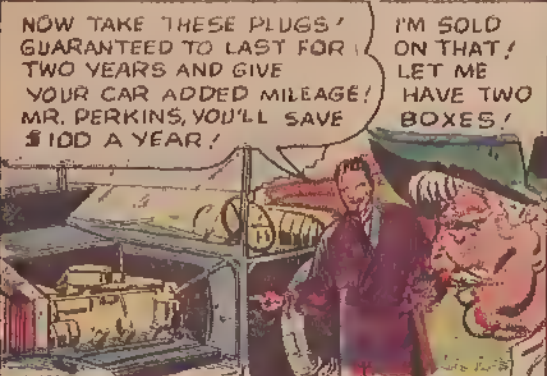
IN THE SWAMI'S LAST SEANCE



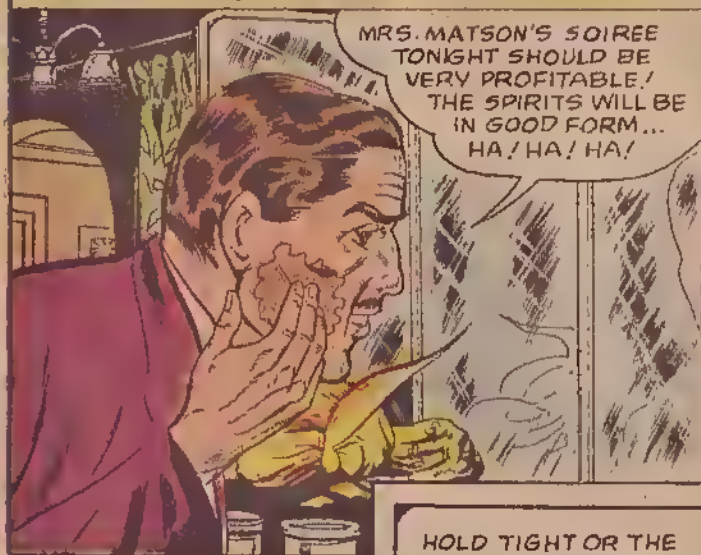
BRUNO GILLERS LED A DOUBLE LIFE... A CROOKED SALESMAN BY DAY AND HINDU MYSTIC BY NIGHT. AFTER GILLERS, THE SALESMAN, COMMITTED A BRUTAL MURDER, HE SOUGHT REFUGE IN HIS TABLE-RATTLING CARGER TO FLEECE INNOCENT PEOPLE IN THEIR MISERY. BUT HIS OCCULT POWERS DESERTED HIM WHEN THE POLICE BECAME HIS SUBJECTS. NO SPIRITS COULD HELP BRUNO GILLERS AT "The SWAMI'S LAST SEANCE!"



THE AUTOMOBILE WAS BEGINNING TO REPLACE THE HORSE WHEN BRUNO GILLERS, A SMOOTH-TALKING SPARK PLUG SALESMAN, OPERATED IN THE FARM AREA OUTSIDE OF CLEVELAND...



SALESMAN BY DAY, HINDU MYSTIC BY NIGHT, BRUNO GILLERS LED A DOUBLE CRIMINAL LIFE UNTIL THE LAW INTERRUPTED "THE SWAMI'S LAST SEANCE"



MRS. MATSON'S SOIREE TONIGHT SHOULD BE VERY PROFITABLE! THE SPIRITS WILL BE IN GOOD FORM... HA! HA! HA!

THIS *SIDE DOOR* ENTRANCE IS THE BEST FEATURE OF THE APARTMENT! NOBODY EVEN SUSPECTS THE GREAT KHAMA ZORA LIVES HERE!



HOLD TIGHT OR THE SPELL WILL BE BROKEN! I CAN FEEL THE RESTLESS SPIRITS TONIGHT! OH, KRISHNA RA, ENTER THESE PORTALS!



YES! YES! I HEAR YOU, SPIRIT! YOU ARE MR. MATSON! YOU ARE HAPPY! VERY HAPPY! MRS. MATSON WILL BE PLEASED!...AAH!



AH, GOOD EVENING, SWAMI! KHAMA ZORA, THE GUESTS ARE WAITING!

MAY BRAHMA, BLESS YOU! THE VIBRATIONS ARE FAVORABLE TONIGHT!



YOU WERE MAGNIFICENT, SWAMI! I WOULD GIVE ANYTHING, ANYTHING TO COMMUNICATE WITH MY DEAR DEPARTED SON!

THANK YOU, MRS. PORTER, IF THE SPIRITS ARE WILLING, YOUR SON WILL VISIT YOU SOON!



TAKE THIS, SWAMI! IT IS ONLY A SMALL TOKEN FOR THE JOY YOU HAVE BROUGHT INTO MY LIFE BY CONTACTING MY DEAR, DEAD HUSBAND!

I THANK YOU, MADAM! YOU HAVE A WARM HEART FOR A POOR BELIEVER IN THE MYSTERIES OF THE SPIRIT! YOUR HOME ATTRACTS THE DEPARTED WANDERERS!



BRUNO WAS ALWAYS OUT FOR EASY MONEY! SPARK PLUGS, EVEN AT WHOLESALE, COST TOO MUCH, AND BRUNO HAD PLANS FOR GETTING THEM MORE CHEAPLY.....

HE LOOKS LIKE A SOFT TOUCH! IF I CAN MAKE A DEAL WITH HIM, I CAN MAKE A TON OF DOUGH SELLING PLUGS..



AS I SAID, NOBODY WOULD EVER MISS THEM! I'LL GIVE YOU A DOLLAR FOR EVERY DOZEN! IT'S A EASY BUCK FOR YOU! ALL I WANT IS TWELVE DOZEN! THINK OF IT, TWELVE DOLLARS FOR EVERY FEW MINUTES WORK!

UH, WELL I DON'T KNOW, MR. GILLERS... I MIGHT GET INTO TROUBLE!



I GOT HIM GOING! TWELVE BUCKS AND I CAN UNLOAD THESE FOR SEVENTY FIVE! AND THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING OF A NICE, LITTLE RACKET FOR BRUNO!



A FEW DAYS LATER....

...AND I'LL LET YOU HAVE THE TWELVE DOZEN FOR SEVENTY-FIVE DOLLARS! THAT'S CHEAPER THAN REFLEX WILL SELL THEM TO YOU!

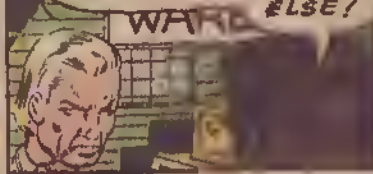
IT'S A DEAL! IF YOU CAN GET ME MORE AT THE SAME PRICE, YOU CAN COUNT ON ME AS A STEADY CUSTOMER!



AS SOON AS THE DEAL WAS COMPLETED, BRUNO RETURNED TO THE WAREHOUSE....

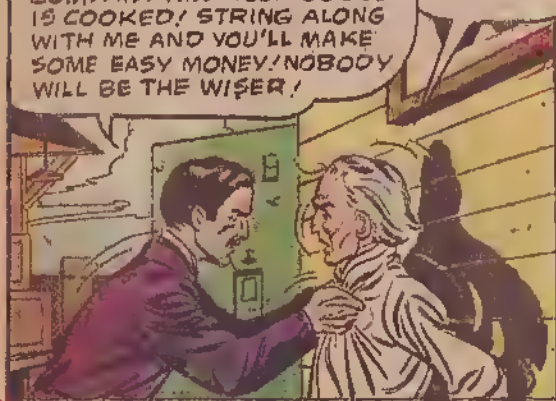
I CAN'T LET YOU HAVE ANY MORE, MR. GILLERS! I GOT A WIFE AND KIDS TO SUPP....

CAN IT! I'M NOT INTERESTED! ALL I WANT IS MORE PLUGS OR ELSE!



LISTEN HAGARO, YOU'LL GO TO JAIL! YOU'LL BE KNOWN AS A COMMON THIEF! ALL I HAVE TO DO IS DROP A NOTE TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMPANY AND YOUR GOOSE IS COOKED! STRING ALONG WITH ME AND YOU'LL MAKE SOME EASY MONEY! NOBODY WILL BE THE WISER!

OKAY! OKAY! JUST..GLUG.. TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF MY THROAT!



TWO HUNDRED DOZEN! THAT'S MORE LIKE IT, HAGARO! NEXT TIME, IT'LL BE A BIGGER ORDER, SO TRY TO STASH SOME AWAY FOR ME!

HAVE A HEART! I CAN'T EMPTY THIS WAREHOUSE WITHOUT IT BEING NOTICED!



IN THE MEANTIME OPPOSITION SALESMEN WERE HAVING A TOUGH TIME DISPOSING OF THEIR PRODUCTS ...

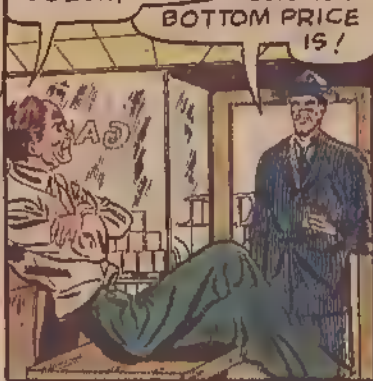
BUT THIS IS OUR LATEST PLUG / YOU CAN'T GET IT CHEAPER ANYWHERE ELSE!

I'M SORRY, BUT I CAN AND HAVE! IF YOU WANT MY BUSINESS, YOU'LL HAVE TO GIVE ME A BETTER PRICE!



YUP, YOU HEARD ME / I'M CANCELLING MY ORDER! 'NOTHER MAN SOLD THEM TO ME MUCH CHEAPER! JUST BROUGHT THIRTY DOZEN!

I-I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY! YOU KNOW WHAT OUR ROCK BOTTOM PRICE IS!



THE SALEMAN HAD PLENTY TO TELL THE PRESIDENT OF HIS COMPANY WHEN HE GOT BACK TO CLEVELAND...

EVERYWHERE I WENT I FOUND THESE **BOOTLEG PLUGS**! I THOUGHT I HAD A CLOSED SALES TERRITORY! I'M THROUGH! I'M QUITTING!

JUST A SECONDO! WE'RE JUST AS CONCERNED ABOUT THIS, TOO! THOUSANDS OF PLUGS ARE MISSING FROM OUR WAREHOUSE! I THINK WE HAVE OUR MAN, THOUGH!



I GAVE THEM TO THIS MAN GILLERS... TAKE THAT LIGHT AWAY, PLEASE!

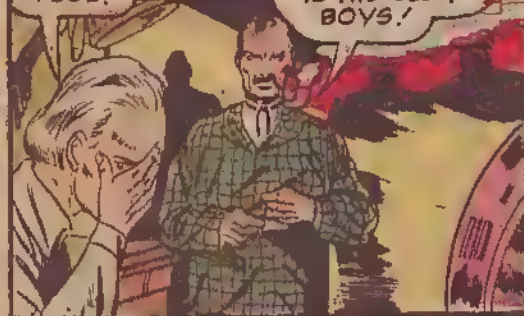
KEEP TALKING! WHAT DID HE LOOK LIKE? WHAT KIND OF CAR DID HE DRIVE? WHAT WERE THE PLATE NUMBERS? **THINK, THINK, HARD!**



A CHECK HAD TRACED THE MISSING PLUGS TO ONE MAN AND HAGARD WAS HAVING A MISERABLE TIME AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS.

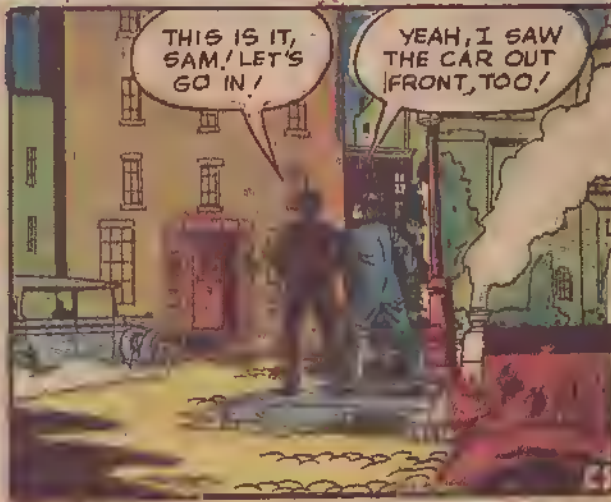
LIGHT...BLUE TOURING, TWO-SEATER CAR... PLATES...I THINK... LK 18304...WHAT A FOOL I'VE BEEN! WHAT A MISERABLE FOOL!

YOU'D BETTER BE SURE, HAGARD! THIS OUGHT TO BE EASY TO TRACE! TAKE HIM BACK TO HIS CELL, BOYS!



THIS IS IT, SAM! LET'S GO IN!

YEAH, I SAW THE CAR OUT FRONT, TOO!

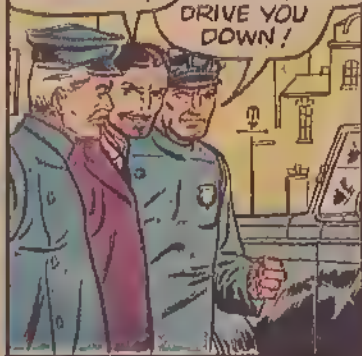


YOU'RE WANTED DOWN AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS FOR QUESTIONING! SOMETHING ABOUT SPARK PLUGS!

I DON'T KNOW A THING ABOUT IT, BUT I'LL BE GLAD TO OBLIGE THE LAW!



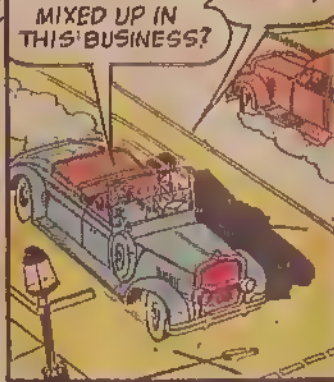
MIND IF WE DRIVE DOWN? BUT I'VE GOT ONLY A TWO-SEATER! I COULD TAKE ONE OF YOU THOUGH!



GO AHEAD, SAM! I'LL BE ALONG IN A FEW MINUTES! LET HIM DRIVE YOU DOWN!

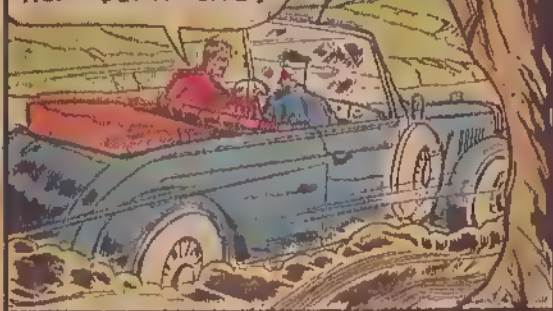
THIS IS A HECK OF A NICE CAR YOU'VE GOT, MISTER! HOW DID YOU COME TO GET MIXED UP IN THIS BUSINESS?

ME? I TELL YOU IT'S A COMPLETE MYSTERY TO ME!



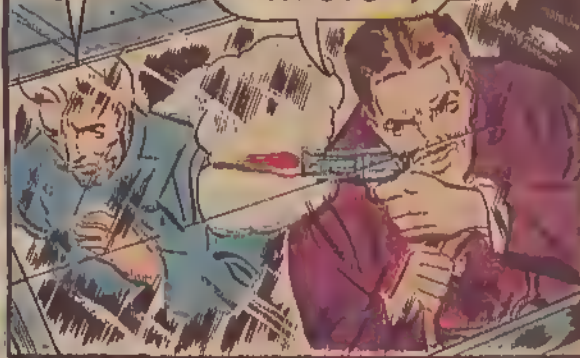
HEY, WHERE ARE YOU GOING? THIS ISN'T THE WAY TO HEADQUARTERS!

KEEP YOUR TRAP SHUT! WE'RE NOT GOING TO HEADQUARTERS!

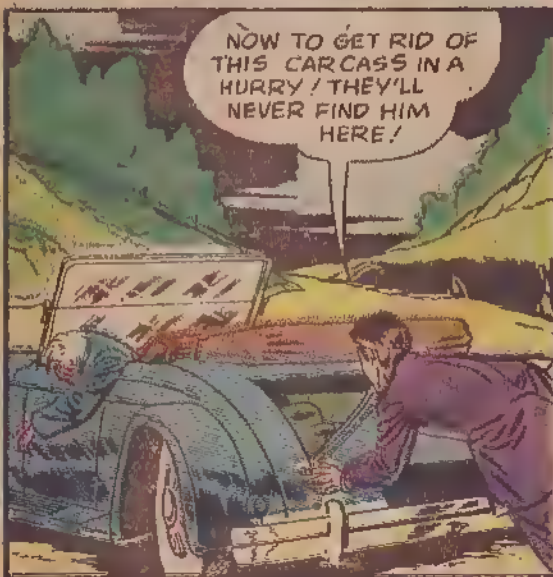


STOP THE CAR! YOU CAN'T GET AWAY WITH.... AAAARGH!

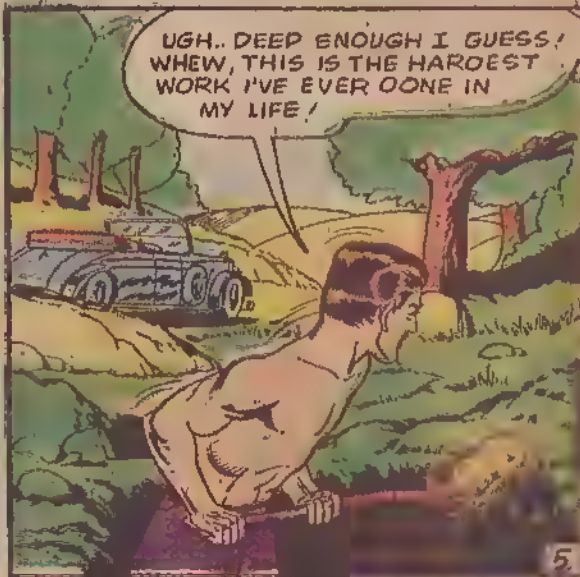
I TOLD YOU TO SHUT UP! YOU STUPID COP! NOW YOU'LL BE QUIET.... FOR GOOD!



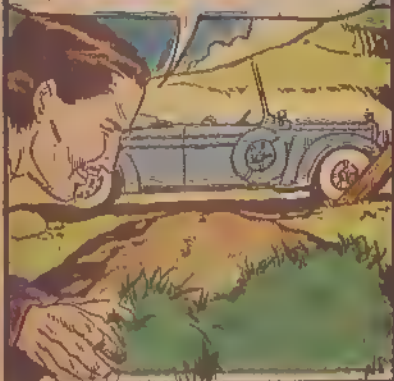
NOW TO GET RID OF THIS CARCASS IN A HURRY! THEY'LL NEVER FIND HIM HERE!



UGH.. DEEP ENOUGH I GUESS! WHEW, THIS IS THE HARDEST WORK I'VE EVER DONE IN MY LIFE!



HE COULDN'T ASK FOR A
BETTER GRAVE! NOW TO
GET RID OF THIS CAR!
THEY'D SPOT ME IN A MINUTE
IF I DROVE BACK IN IT!



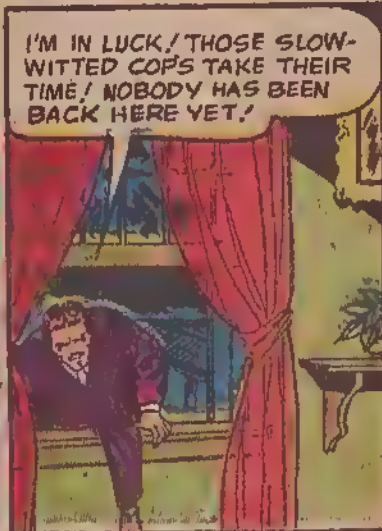
A PERFECT GARAGE! I HATE
LIKE HECK TO PART WITH THIS
BUGGY, BUT THERE'LL BE A
MANHUNT OUT FOR ME
SOON!



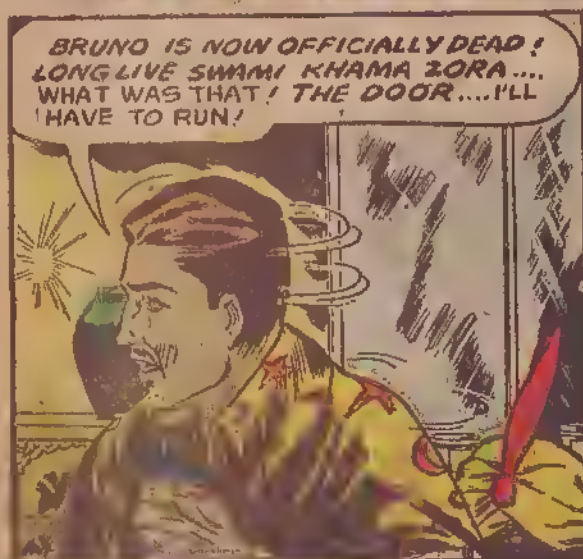
IF I CAN GET BACK INTO MY APARTMENT
FOR A QUICK CHANGE, THEY'LL NEVER
FIND ME!



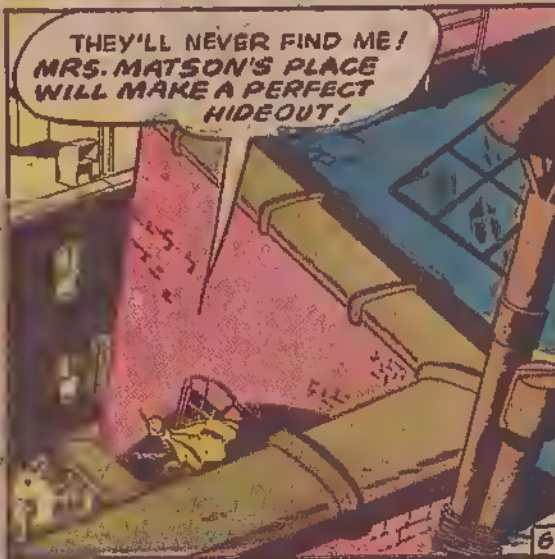
I'M IN LUCK! THOSE SLOW-
WITTED COPS TAKE THEIR
TIME! NOBODY HAS BEEN
BACK HERE YET!



BRUNO IS NOW OFFICIALLY DEAD!
LONG LIVE SWAMI KHAMA ZORA....
WHAT WAS THAT! THE DOOR....I'LL
HAVE TO RUN!



THEY'LL NEVER FIND ME!
MRS. MATSON'S PLACE
WILL MAKE A PERFECT
HIDEOUT!



SWAMI! HOW NICE
TO SEE YOU AGAIN!
DO COME IN!

I HAVE BEEN
GUIDED TO YOU BY
THE CELESTIAL
POWERS!

YOUR HOME IS MY
REFUGE! HERE, I CAN
THINK AND WORK!
BUT I COME HERE
OUT OF NECESSITY!
I AM IN DANGER!

YOU ARE
MOST WELCOME,
DANGER?
WHAT'S THE
MATTER!

I AM PERSECUTED! MY LIFE IS
AT STAKE! THE SECRET INDIAN
SOCIETY OF SINGH TORAK HAS
CONDEMNED ME FOR REVEALING
SOME OF THE SECRETS OF KRISHNA
RA..GODDESS OF ETERNAL LIFE!
THEY DO NOT CARE THAT I HAVE
DONE THIS ONLY TO HELP PEOPLE
WITH THEIR TROUBLES!

YOU ARE DOING
RIGHT! NOBODY
CAN HARM
YOU HERE
AND YOU
MAY STAY
AS LONG
AS YOU
LIKE!

I KNEW THE OLD FOOL WOULD
FALL FOR MY STORY! A FEW
WEEKS HERE AND I CAN
COLLECT ENOUGH MONEY
TO GET AWAY TO
**SOUTH
AMERICA!**

MEANWHILE, THE POLICE WERE
TRYING EVERY MEANS AT THEIR
COMMAND TO FIND THE MISSING
SAM GOOFREY...

I SAW THE
CAR TURN OFF IN THIS
DIRECTION!

THEY'VE SNIFFED
THIS LONG ENOUGH! TAKE
THE HOUNDS OUT! THEY
MAY PICK UP A SCENT IF
THE CAR WAS STOPPED OUT
IN THE COUNTRY!

GET SOME
SHOVELS MEN!
THIS LOOKS LIKE
THE PLACE! THE
GROUND IS
SOFT, I THINK
WE'LL FIND
POOR SAM
HERE!

I'D LIKE
TO GET
MY
HANDS
ON THAT
DIRTY
NO GOOD
RAT, GILLERS!

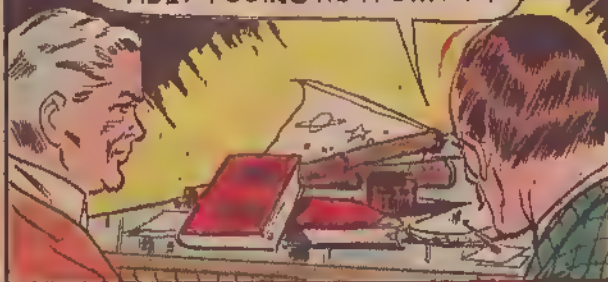
POOR SAM!
WHAT A HORRIBLE
WAY TO DIE!

THE POLICE WENT THROUGH BRUNO'S APARTMENT WITH A FINE TOOTH COMB...

THAT'S ALL THERE IS AND TO ME, IT POINTS TO A **DOUBLE IDENTITY!**

GILLERS MUST BE DOUBLING AS SOME KIND OF FORTUNE

TELLER! ALL THIS HINDU MYSTIC STUFF... PLUS THE WALNUT STAIN... INDICATES HE'S PROBABLY POSING AS A SWAMI!



WE FOUND THE CAR IN AN ABANDONED BARN WITH BLOOD-STAINS ALL OVER IT!

GOOD! THAT MEANS OUR KILLER CAN'T BE TOO FAR AWAY!



MEANWHILE, AT MRS. MATSON'S HOUSE, THE SEANCES HAD BEEN VERY PROFITABLE TO BRUNO...

NINETEEN, TWENTY, TWENTY-ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS! THAT OUGHT TO GET ME TO SOUTH AMERICA! I'LL PHONE FOR A RESERVATION ON THE NEW YORK TRAIN!



THE SWAMI HAS BEEN KEEPING HIMSELF SO ALOOF LATELY! OF COURSE, IT'S JUST MY IMAGINATION, BUT I'D SWEAR HIS SKIN HAS BECOME LIGHTER, TOO! I WONDER... OH... A PISTOL! WHAT IN THE WORLD!



...WHAT'S THE EARLIEST TRAIN TO NEW YORK THIS SATURDAY?

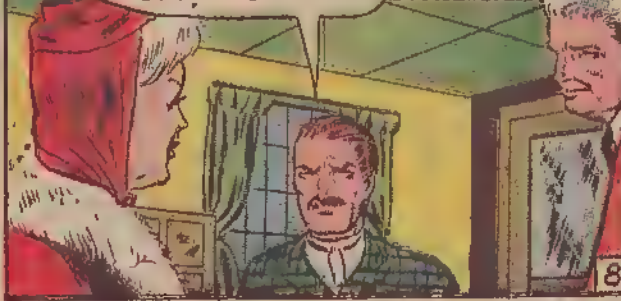
H-HE'S GOING TO LEAVE! THAT GUN AND THE WAY HE CAME HERE... HE MUST HAVE DONE SOME-THING REALLY WRONG! I MUST GO TO THE POLICE AT ONCE!



AND HE HAS A GUN... I'M SO FRIGHTENED!

AND HIS SKIN HAS TURNED LIGHTER, EH? PROBABLY COULDN'T RISK GOING OUT TO GET SOME MORE WALNUT

STAIN! YOU HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR, BUT WE NEED **POSITIVE PROOF!** BRING US A GLASS OR SOMETHING THAT ONLY HE HAS HANDLED! IF THE PRINTS CHECK, WE'LL ARRANGE FOR A SEANCE WITH SWAMI GILLERS!



THAT SAME EVENING, THE POLICE HAD ALL THE EVIDENCE THEY NEEDED...

THEY MATCH!
THOSE ARE THE PRINTS FROM
THE STEERING WHEEL OF HIS
CAR AND THESE ARE FROM THE
GLASS MRS. MATSON SENT!
LET'S ARRANGE FOR THAT
SEANCE!

I'M GOING TO GET
PERSONAL PLEASURE
OUT OF WATCHING
HIM TRY TO SQUIRM
OUT OF THIS!

I WANT TO INTRODUCE MR.
GEER AND MR. WINSLOW,
SWAMI! THEY'VE
COME TO ASK
YOUR HELP!

YES,
WE
ARE
TRYING
TO CON-
TACT A DEAR
DEPARTED ONE!

NOW, ABSOLUTE SILENCE
UNLESS I QUESTION
YOU!

I CAN FEEL ELECTRICITY
FLOWING IN THE AIR! THE
SPIRITS ARE SENDING
MESSAGES, BUT
NEED MORE
INFORMATION!

HIS NAME
WAS
GODFREY,

SAM GODFREY, A
GOQO MAN WHO
DEPARTED BEFORE
HIS TIME!

YES, A POLICEMAN,
MURDERED WHILE
BRINGING A MISER-
ABLE THIEF TO HEAD-
QUARTERS! DO YOU
REMEMBER, GILLERS?

WHAAT!
YOU'RE...

THE
POLICE!

YES, GILLERS! ALL YOUR
FAKING AND CRYSTAL
GAZING WON'T HELP YOU
NOW! YOU'RE UNDER
ARREST FOR THE
MURDER OF SAM
GODFREY!

LET ME GO!
YOU CAN'T
PROVE A
THING! I
DON'T KNOW
WHAT YOU'RE
TALKING ABOUT!

GET ALONG! YOU'VE
GOT A HOT SEANCE
WAITING FOR YOU!

BRUNO GILLERS, ALIAS SWAMI KAHMA
ZORA, PAID THE SUPREME PENALTY!
THANKS TO THE EVER-VIGILANT
POLICE, HE NOW OCCUPIES A NICHE
IN THE SAME SPIRIT WORLD HE SO
OFTEN EXPLOITED!

THE END

Corpus Delicti—Without Teeth!

SAMMY the Slick was visibly annoyed.

First he brushed the imaginary fly off the lapel of his jacket by a flick of his right hand over his well oiled black hair which heightened the effect of his pale skin. He took a deep breath as though to fill out his chest. His pin check serge suit came from the best tailor in town. He was now ready to give vent to his feelings. "The next time you cops bring me in I am going to sue for false arrest. You fellows give me a pain in the neck. Every time some character is murdered in this town, out go the orders to get me. You would think I ran a murder factory instead of a night club. It's bad for my business. After all, I am a respectable man. In about ten minutes my lawyer will be here with a writ of Habeas Corpus. And then maybe I can get a little fresh air and go back to my business."

Inspector John Harding struggled to control his temper. And that was rather difficult for a man weighing some two hundred and fifty pounds. You could see the inward struggle taking place and his steel gray eyes betrayed the determination not to take any of the insolence of this petty cheap crook. His strong fingers grasped the sides of his arm chair in a successful effort to control his temper. He focused his eyes at Sammy the Slick. "You aren't going to get away with it this time. In the past you had your pals swear to a crooked alibi. I am certain you even tried to bribe the last jury that freed you. We know that Joe the Barber welched on his gambling debts to you. He told everything to his wife. Said the wheel

in your gambling room was as crooked as your soul. You couldn't let him get away with it or it would encourage others not to pay their gambling debts to you. So the word in the underworld was that Joe's number was up. He was last seen going to your country hide-out to make peace with you. Joe Lucciu, the money lender, swears he gave Joe the Barber twenty thousand dollars so that he could square accounts with you. You collected every cent of it. And then you killed him. How? You crushed his skull in with a monkey wrench. Then you removed every means of identification from the body. You cut off his finger tips because he had a police record. Thought you were clever, so we couldn't identify him from his prints on file. Then you placed the body in a stolen car, poured gasoline over it, and set fire to the car."

"Smart big boy, you are," remarked Sammy the Slick. "Keep up this boy detective stuff and they will make you Police Commissioner one of these days. Then you can put your big flat feet on top of a nice new shiny desk and smoke fat cigars. If I killed Joe, where is a body that can be positively identified as Joe the Barber? You would think you were a new cop on the force, Inspector, and you never heard of Corpus Delicti. How can you accuse me of killing Joe, when you can't identify this body which you mention?"

"You don't think you can get away with it, do you?" challenged the police official. "You had the motive and you had the opportunity to commit the crime. Somehow

"I know you must have made a slip up in your vicious little mind, and when I get you, then you go to the chair." "Keep on talking until your tongue rots in your mouth," snapped back Sammy the Slick. "I know the report of the local coroner. He says an unidentified man was killed by an unknown assailant. Death was due to a blow on the head by a blunt instrument. The man probably was dead an hour previous to the time his body was set afire." There was a look of complete satisfaction upon the face of Sammy the Slick. And then as an afterthought and a personal dig, he added, "Now if it had been your body, Inspector, they could tell from the size and the shape of the feet it must have been a copper."

Inspector Harding bit his lip. There was the understandable desire to take the little runt in front of him and squeeze him until the bones broke. But those days of rough handling were a thing of the past. There was a knock on the door. "Come in," said the Inspector. A policeman entered and handed his superior a blue slip of paper which meant it was an official memorandum from the police laboratory. The Inspector carefully studied its contents. When finished, a slight grin began to play around the folds of his mouth. A sigh, something akin to contentment, escaped from his lips. Sammy the Slick watched him like an eagle. Something warned him that all was not right. And years of experience told the police official what was taking place in the punk's mind. He tapped the top of his desk with the paper several times, merely to get the nerves of the man sitting opposite him rattled.

"Sammy, you are all washed up," he commented in a matter of fact voice. "Sooner or later, fellows like you who think they are the smartest people in the world, make the one slip that sends them to the chair. Any person who thinks he can commit a perfect crime should have his head exam-

ined, and that includes you. This time I have enough evidence for an indictment that will stick and end your career of crime. And when I say end, I mean the hot seat for you."

Sammy the Slick was tense now. He didn't want to fall into any trap. Was the Inspector playing with him the way a cat teases a mouse? Or had he come across something unexpected which really would stand up as evidence in a court? He forced a grin on his face and spoke, "Get it off your mind. Go on tell me what you know if it will make you feel any better. And then let me out of here. I got to be back before six at my place."

The Inspector laughed. "You are never leaving here, Sammy. Just imagine a smart fellow like you making such a foolish mistake. Thought you were a dentist, eh? You took a pair of pliers and removed the bridges in Joe's mouth. Then you pulled out two teeth from his upper jaw and three from the bottom jaw. Thought that we couldn't identify the body! You forgot something you never knew, you half baked moron! When a dentist removes a tooth, there is a hole left in the gum. And when a dentist uses his forceps to do the job, he removes the entire tooth, including the root. You just broke two teeth off and left the roots in the gum. And there aren't any holes in the gum where the bridges carry the false teeth. That heals up over a period of time. We got the dentist who did the work and he identified the mouth because he has all his X-ray pictures on files. He showed us what a bungling job you did."

Sammy the Slick was no longer confident. His hands began to tremble, but the worst was yet to come. "My laboratory man tells me," continued the Inspector, "that if you had left the bridgework in the mouth, we could never have identified the body. Part of the material would have melted and seared and burned the gums, making identification by dental charts almost impossible."

MOXIE ROBERTS

IN
"THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS!"



THE CRAZE WHICH ATE AT THE HEART AND MIND OF MOXIE ROBERTS, DRIVING HIM ON FROM ONE CRIME TO ANOTHER, WAS A FRENZIED PASSION TO OWN NEW AND EXTRAVAGANTLY-CUT CLOTHES! COUPLED WITH THIS PASSION WAS A VAIN DESIRE TO EXAMINE AND REEXAMINE HIS CAREFULLY NURTURED GOODLOOKS IN A NEVER ENDING COLLECTION OF LOOKING GLASSES AND MIRRORS!



THIS THREE-FIFTY TIE SURE LOOKS SLICK! WISH I HAD MORE DOUGH! I'D BUY A DOZEN!

HEY, MOXIE! GOT A DEAL FOR YA!

JUNE 17, 1933, HARROW'S GYMNASIUM IN NEW YORK CITY...AND MOXIE ROBERTS WAS PREENING HIMSELF LIKE A BIRD PROUD OF HIS FEATHERS...



FILL-IN ON A LOCAL CARD, MOXIE! ONE OF MINE GOT SICK AT THE LAST MINUTE! WRASSLE A COUPLA MINUTES AND MAKE FIFTY! WHAT D'YA SAY?

NOT SURE! THOSE BUMB OF YER'S CAN GET TOUGH! HE MIGHT MEES UP MY FACE!



MOXIE ROBERTS,
BY HIS OWN
ADMISSION A
GOOD-LOOKING
DANDY, HEADED
STRAIGHT FOR
A TORTURED
CAREER IN
CRIME, DRIVEN
BY HIS OWN
DESIRE TO SEE
HIMSELF
**THROUGH THE
LOOKING GLASS!**



OKAY, YEAH, I'LL DO IT!
**THERE WAS SOME
CLOTHES I WANTED
TO GET AND THIS
FIFTY'LL DO THE
TRICK!**

GOOD
BOY!
GOT
YERSELF
A SECOND?

YEAH! TOOTHPICK BERTRAM DOGGOLO!
HE'LL BE AS GOOD AS ANY! I'LL TAKE
A QUICK FALL ANYWAY! I WON'T
BE BOUNCIN' ON THAT CANVAS
LONG!

H'YA, MOXIE!



LATER... AIN'T THAT SOMETHIN'!
LOOK AT THE
SHOULDERS IT GIVES
ME! DON'T I LOOK
GOOD?

NOT
BAD,
MOXIE!
NOT
BAD!



HERE! YA WANT TO PUT
THAT ASIDE FOR ME?
I'LL BE IN TO PICK IT
UP IN A COUPLA DAYS!

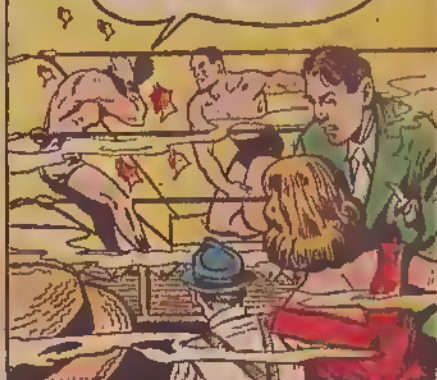
WHYN'T YA WAIT
TILL YA GOT THE
MONEY IN YER
POCKET, MOXIE?

YES,
SIR!



THE NIGHT OF THE WRESTLING MATCH,
MOXIE ROBERTS SWEATED OUT HIS FACE
AND TRIED TO BICYCLE AWAY FROM HIS
OPPONENT...

C'MON! TAKE IT EASY! I
DON'T WANT MY FACE SCRAMBLED
ALL OVER THIS CANVAS!



YER TOO PRETTY, BOY! A
LITTLE ROUGHIN' UP IS
GONNA DO YOU A LOT
OF GOOD!

SLAP!

HEY! LAY
OFF! OWW!



AFTER A ONE-SIDED WRESTLING BOUT, MOXIE ROBERTS, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS BUDDY, TOOTHPICK, WENT TO A CHEAP HOTEL ROOM, CLUTCHING HIS MONEY

LOOK WHAT THAT RAT DONE TO ME! LOOK AT MY FACE! HE MAULED ME!

YA GOT THE FIVE TENS, DIDN'T YA? THAT'S WHAT YA WANTED!



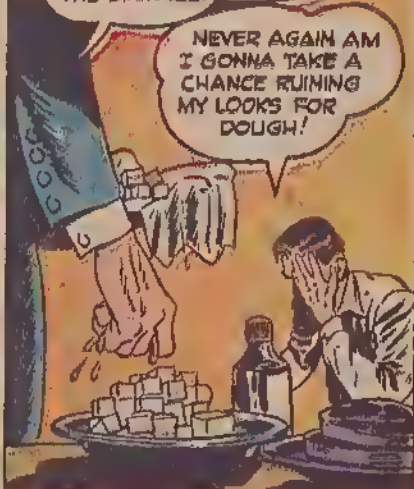
MONEY DON'T MEAN NOthin' IF YA DONT LOOK GOOD! I CAN'T STAND TO LOOK AT MYSELF THIS WAY!

EASY, MOXIE! TAKE IT EASY!



THESE ICE CUBES AND THE RAW BEEF WILL REPAIR SOME OF THE DAMAGE!

NEVER AGAIN AM I GONNA TAKE A CHANCE RUINING MY LOOKS FOR DOUGH!



I'M GONNA GET MY DOUGH AT THE POINT OF A GUN! WE'LL LINE UP ONE OR TWO BOYS AND PULL SOME JOBS! WHEN I GET THE DOUGH I'M GOING TO SPEND IT ON CLOTHES!



I AIN'T GONNA HAVE TO LOOK AT MYSELF LIKE THAT AGAIN! I'M GONNA FIX MY LOOKS UP AND BUY MIRRORS AND LOOKING GLASSES AND EXAMINE MYSELF FOR HOURS! I'M GONNA BE THE BEST-LOOKING CROOK THERE EVER WAS!



MOXIE ROBERTS PULLED HIS INITIAL JOB ON JULY 27, 1933, WHEN HE ROBBED THE VERY ARENA WHERE HE HAD SUFFERED A HUMILIATING BEATING IN THE WRESTLING RING...

SNAP IT UP, JELLY! YOU TOO RUB HEAD! GET THOSE CUFFS ROLLED UP SO IT'LL LOOK LIKE TOOTHPICK AN' ME IS TAKING A FEW WRESTLERS THROUGH THE CROWD! IT'S ONLY A COUPLA STEPS TO THE BOX-OFFICE



WHAT YA DOIN', COMIN' IN HERE, MOXIE? YOU WERE PAID OFF, WEREN'T YA? IF IT'S A DATE YA WANT, I AIN'T GOT ANY OPEN RIGHT NOW!

I GOT SOMETHIN' FOR YA!



THIS IS A LITTLE SAMPLE OF WHAT I TOOK THAT NIGHT YA GOT ME THE EASY MATCH! EASY MATCH! THAT WAS A LAUGH! HOW'D YA LIKE TO HAVE YER FACED PUSHED IN?



YOU CHEAP PUNK!
I GAVE YOU A BREAK WHEN YOU NEEDED IT! YOU CAN'T PUSH ME AROUND AND---
ARRRGH!

BLAM!

MOVE FAST! GRAB THE DOUGH AND STUFF IT IN YOUR POCKETS! WE'LL POOL AND SPLIT IT LATER!

YER COMING ALONG, TOD, IN CASE WE RUN INTO TROUBLE! YOU GET IT FIRST AS A WARNING!

Y-YES! I'LL DO ANYTHING!

LATER...

A GOOD FEELING TO BE FLUSH, RIGHT, MOXIE?

DON'T WORRY, TOOTHPICK! WE'LL NEVER BE CAUGHT SHORT AGAIN! MAKE SURE YOU GET THE MEASUREMENTS RIGHT, TAILOR! I WANT A DOZEN SUITS IN THAT MATERIAL!

AND GIMME A DOZEN OF THOSE TIES, AND THOSE SHIRTS, AND THOSE CUFF LINKS, AND THOSE HATS, AND EVERYTHING! A DOZEN ALL AROUND!

SIR! PLEASE! HOLD STILL! PLEASE!

LATER, AT A STORE SPECIALIZING IN THE MAKING OF MIRRORS...

AIN'T THAT SOMETHING, TOOTHPICK? I GET A WHOLE LOOK AT MYSELF! I COULD STAND HERE ALL DAY! WHEN I PUT MY NEW CLOTHES ON, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO PULL ME AWAY FROM THIS, LOOKING GLASS!

YEAH! THESE WILL BE JUST FOR LOOKING AT MY HEAD WHEN I DON'T WANT TO WASTE THE BOTTOM OF THE BIG MIRROR! A HALF DOZEN! AND ONE FOR THE FLOOR! FOR LOOKING AT MY FEET!

MOXIE ROBERT'S PASSION FOR NEW CLOTHES WAS NOT EASILY SATISFIED! HE BEGAN TO REPRESENT THE SPENDING OF HIS ILL-GOTTEN LOOT ON CLOTHES! ON AUG. 17, 1933, MOXIE ROBERTS FOUND AN ANSWER!



NO NOISE! THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT JOB I EVER PULLED! IT AIN'T MERE DOUGH WE'RE GUNNIN' FOR THIS TIME!

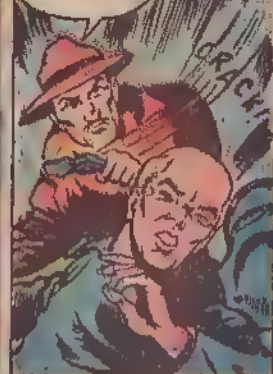


TOOTHPICK! YOU TAKE OVER THE REGISTER! ME AND RUB HEAD'LL GET THE IMPORTANT STUFF! WAIT! I HEAR SOMEBODY MOVING AROUND IN BACK!



HELLO? ANYBODY IN HERE?

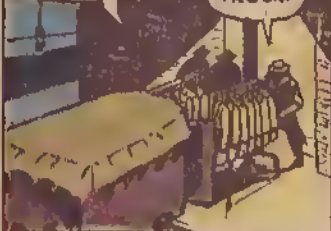
SORRY, POP! BUT YA DON'T FIT INTO MY SCHEME OF THINGS!



MINUTES LATER, A STRANGE EVENT TOOK PLACE OUTSIDE THE CLOTHING STORE...

COULDN'T BE BETTER! WE GOT EVERY SUIT IN THE JOINT THAT'S MY SIZE! WHAT A PICNIC I'M GONNA HAVE TRYIN' THESE ON AND LOOKIN' AT MYSELF IN THE MIRROR!

GONNA BE A JOB GETTIN' THIS RACK UP IN THE BACK OF THE TRUCK!



BACK AT THEIR HOTEL ROOM, MOXIE ROBERTS BEGAN A CAREFUL EXAMINATION OF HIMSELF AND HIS NEW CLOTHES...

YEAH! THE CLOTHES ARE OKAY! BUT MY HAIR DON'T LOOK GOOD, MY COMPLEXION AIN'T SO HOT! I BETTER DO SOMETHIN' ABOUT THAT!



GROWING OUT OF MOXIE ROBERT'S DISSATISFACTION WITH HIS PHYSICAL APPEARANCE WAS HIS PLAN FOR HIS NEXT JOB! THIS TIME CRASHED A MEN'S TOILETRIES FACTORY...

FREEZE! DROP THOSE VALIGES! DON'T MAKE ANY NOISE AND DON'T GO FOR YER GUNS!

I THOUGHT THEY WERE SOME OF THE FACTORY WORKERS!

LET'S TAKE THEM INTO THE FACTORY AN' USE 'EM AS A SHIELD!



GRAB SOME OF EVERYTHING THEY TURN OUT! GET SOME STUFF FOR MY HAIR! YEAH... AND SOME LOTION FOR MY SKIN... AND SOMETHIN' FER MY NAILS! AND THEN WE'LL BEAT IT WITH THE PAYROLL!



MOXIE AND HIS MEN WORKED SWIFTLY AND WERE SOON MOVING ON THE HIGHWAY IN THEIR GETAWAY CAR...

HOUSE OF MIRRORS! I BEEN MISSING SOMETHING! HERE'S A PLACE I COULD REALLY STOCK UP! ALL THE LOOKING GLASSES I COULD EVER ASK FOR!

LET'S TAKE 'EM ON A WEEKEND, MOXIE. WHEN THE DAY'S CATCH IS BIG!



ON SEPT. 3, 1933, MOXIE ROBERTS AND HIS GANG HIT THE CARNIVAL JUST FIVE MILES FROM THE GEORGE WASHINGTON BRIDGE ON THE NEW JERSEY SIDE OF THE HUDSON RIVER...



WE CAN INTO TROUBLE, MOXIE! COPS! BUT WE GOT THE DAY'S TAKE ANYWAY! THEY'RE AFTER US!

MAYBE WE BETTER TAKE OFF WHILE WE CAN!

NONE OF THAT! WE CAME FOR MY LOOKING GLASSES AND WE'RE GETTING THEM BEFORE WE DRIFT! COPS OR NO COPS!



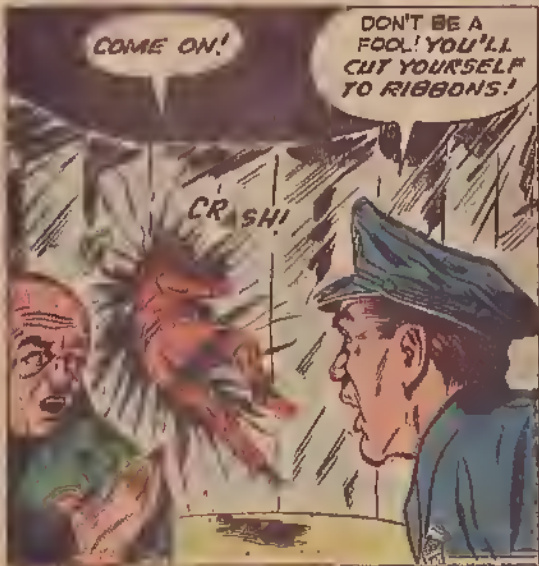
THESE MIRRORS ARE NO GOOD! YEAH, THEY MAKE YA TALL AND THIN OR SHORT AND FAT! LET'S TRY ANOTHER ROOM!



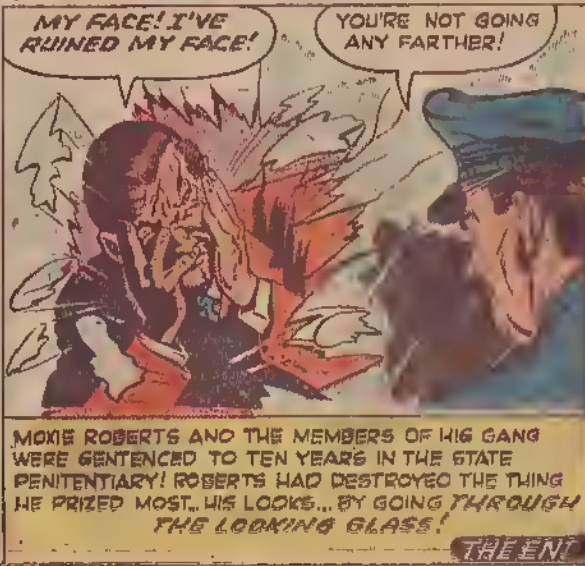
THESE MIRRORS ARE JUST RIGHT! I CAN LINE THE WALLS OF MY ROOM WITH THEM! LET'S GO TO WORK! HEY! THERE'S A WHOLE MOB OF COPS RUNNING INTO THIS PLACE! THEY GOT US TRAPPED!



DROP YOUR GUNS! GET YOUR HANDS UP IN THE AIR! COPPERO AIN'T GONNA GET ME! FOLLOW ME! THERE AIN'T NOTHING ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MIRRORS! IT'S A WAY OUT!



COME ON! DON'T BE A FOOL! YOU'LL CUT YOURSELF TO RIBBONS! CR SH!



MY FACE! I'VE RUINED MY FACE! YOU'RE NOT GOING ANY FARTHER!

MOXIE ROBERTS AND THE MEMBERS OF HIS GANG WERE SENTENCED TO TEN YEARS IN THE STATE PENITENTIARY! ROBERTS HAD DESTROYED THE THING HE PRIZED MOST... HIS LOOKS... BY GOING THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS!

LAWBREAKERS
NEVER WIN



WHEN A MURDER IS REPORTED, NOT ONE, BUT A **HALF DOZEN** DIFFERENT POLICE UNITS GO INTO ACTION...

HERE IS THE TERRIFIED MAN WHO HAS JUST DISCOVERED A CORPSE!

OPERATOR, QUICK, GIVE ME THE POLICE DEPARTMENT! I'VE JUST FOUND A DEAD MAN! HE'S BEEN STABBED!



AT HEADQUARTERS, THE OFFICER ON DUTY IS THE FIRST TO GET THE INFORMATION...

THIS IS THE PBX... THE NERVE SYSTEM OF THE POLICE FORCE, UNITING ALL POLICE UNITS....

THE SCENE SHIFTS VIA THE PBX...

STABBED? 224 ROGER STREET? JUST HOLD ON, BUDDY! STAY WHERE YOU ARE AND DON'T TOUCH ANYTHING! THE POLICE WILL BE THERE IN A FEW MINUTES....

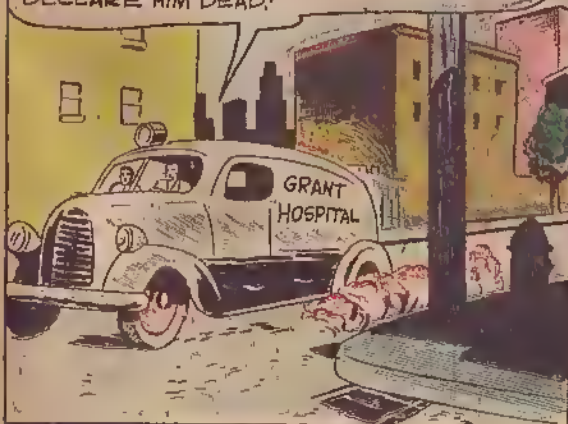
CALLING CAR 29... CALLING CAR 29! REPORT TO 224 ROGER STREET! MAN FOUND STABBED IN HALLWAY!

HOMICIDE, INSPECTOR HARRISON SPEAKING!



THE PBX THEN NOTIFIES THE NEAREST HOSPITAL....

THEY SAID IT WAS A KNIFING! PROBABLY NOTHING MORE FOR ME TO DO THAN DECLARE HIM DEAD!



ANOTHER CALL GOES THROUGH TO THE FINGERPRINT AND PHOTOGRAPHY SECTION...

WHAT A TIME TO PICK OFF FOR MURDER!

YEAH, AND I'D JUST DROPPED OFF TO SLEEP AT HOME!



AT THE SCENE OF THE CRIME...

GET BACK!
THIS ISN'T
A CIRCUS!

ANY OTHER
MARKS ON
THE BODY
DOC?

NO!
THE BLADE
COLLAPSED
THE LEFT
LUNG AND
PIERCED THE
HEART! DEATH
WAS APPARENTLY
INSTANTANEOUS!

GO IN AND GET THE PRINTS,
BOYS! DON'T MOVE THE BODY
UNTIL THE CORONER GETS
HERE!

FLASH

BUT WHAT ARE THEY DOING
WITH THAT VACUUM CLEANER
AROUND THE BODY?

YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT
THIS LITTLE CLEANER
WILL PICK UP! IN A CASE
LIKE THIS, EVERY CLUE
COUNTS!

AFTER THE MEDICAL EXAMINER HAS IN-
SPECTED THE BODY, THE PRESS ALLOWED
IN.....

ALL RIGHT BOYS! JUST A KNIFING! STABBED
ABOUT 1:30 A.M., ACCORDING TO THE
MEDICAL EXAMINER! GIVE US A CHANCE
AND THERE'LL BE MORE FROM HEAD-
QUARTERS LATER!



AFTER THE VICTIM'S POCKETS HAVE
BEEN TURNED OUT THE BODY MAKES
ITS JOURNEY TO THE CITY MORGUE.....

WE'VE GOT EVERYTHING WORTH TAKING!
LET'S GET BACK TO HEADQUARTERS
AND SEE WHAT WE CAN PUZZLE OUT!



A FEW DAYS LATER...

THE CORPSE HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED
AS JOE ALTRURO, A SMALL TIME
BOOKIE! MUST HAVE BEEN SWAMPED
FOR WELCHING ON SOME BETS! THE
ADDRESS BOOK IS GOING TO HELP!
CALL THE BOYS INTO THE CONFERENCE
ROOM AND LET'S START THE MERRY-
GO-ROUND!

O.K.
CHIEF!



DON'T OVERLOOK A THING!
BRING ALL SUSPECTS IN!
WE'LL CHECK THEIR ALIBIS
LATER!



AND SO THE RELENTLESS CRUSADE
AGAINST CRIME NEVER STOPS!
USING EVERY SCIENTIFIC DEVICE
AND DOZENS OF HIGHLY SKILLED
MEN, THE POLICE WILL GET THEIR
MAN! THE KILLER HASN'T A CHANCE
WITH THIS FORMIDABLE ARMY OF
EXPERTS WORKING AGAINST HIM!
CRIME DOES NOT PAY!

THE END

SENSATIONAL BOOK BARGAINS!!

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AT ALL,
YOU CAN PLAY
BOOGIE-WOOGIE!**



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Money Back If Not Satisfied After 5 Days' Trial

You Can WIN

This 15" tall
SILVER TROPHY
JUST AS I DID IN
10 MINUTES
OF FUN
A DAY!

**I GAINED
53 LBS. OF SHAPELY
POWER-PACKED
MUSCLES!**

Which of these
2 ME'S ?
is YOU ?

THAT 112 LB.-6 FT.

SPINDLE-**SISSY** below
ARMED **WAS ME**
A FEW SHORT WEEKS AGO

When I enrolled I was
a skinny, sick weak-
ling. As you can see
in my before Photo I
looked like a child, a
years younger than my
age. I was ashamed to
take a picture in bul-
ding trunks as I do now.
I ate shy with girls
because I had nothing
to show off. A few
weeks after starting
the Jovett's Course my
body was the best in
the neighborhood. Now
I get respect and ad-
miration from every
fellow and girl I meet.

Roger D. Hirsch
NEW YORK

There's that
skinny scarecrow
ROGER. Let's
pass him by!



ROGER HIRSCH
was a 112 lb. 6 ft. WEAKLING.
Look at him NOW—
A MOVIE-STAR HE-MAN
from Head to Toe

as **YOU**
can be
soon!

Come on, PAL, NOW
YOU GIVE ME

10 PLEASANT MINUTES A
DAY IN YOUR HOME... AND I'LL GIVE
YOU A NEW HE-MAN BODY
For Your OLD SKELETON FRAME.

says *George F. Jovett* World's Greatest
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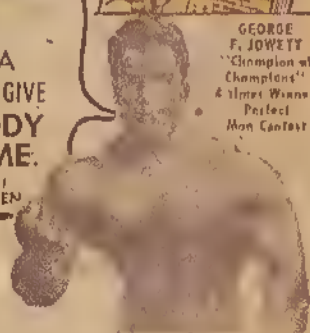
NO! don't care how skinny or flabby you are; If you're
a teen-ager, in your 20's or 30's or over; If you're
short or tall, or what work you do. All I want is JUST
10 EXCITING MINUTES in your home to MAKE YOU OVER
by the SAME METHOD I turned myself from a wreck
to a Champion of Champions.

NO! friend you
don't have to be
SKINNY any more
just mail NOW
the **FREE**
coupon below
as I did. Soon
YOU can add

6 1/2 inches to your **CHEST**
3 inches to each **ARM**
and the rest
in proportion
just as I did.



GEORGE F. JOVETT
"Champion of
Champions"
& 11-time Winner
Perfect
Men Contest



YES! You'll see INCH upon INCH of MIGHTY MUSCLE added to
YOUR ARMS. Your CHEST deepened. Your BACK AND
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SIZE, POWER, SPEED! You'll become an ALL-AROUND, ALL AMERICAN
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Develop **YOUR 520 MUSCLES**
Gain Pounds, INCHES, FAST!

Friend, I've traveled the world, MADE A LIFETIME STUDY of every way
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"5-WAY PROGRESSIVE POWER" the only method that builds you 5-ways
fast. You save YEARS, DOLLARS like movie star Tom Tyler did. Like
champ Roger Hirsch did. Like MANY THOUSANDS like you did. SO Mail
coupon NOW!

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who want to
LOOK SLIMMER
and
FEEL YOUNGER



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Got a 'Bay Window'?



DO YOU ENVY MEN
who can
'KEEP ON THEIR FEET'?

and then he got a
"CHEVALIER" . . .



YOU NEED A
"CHEVALIER"!

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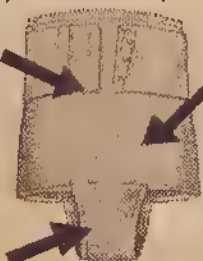
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BULGING "BAY WINDOW"

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Works quick as a flash! Simply adjust the strap and presto! The belt is perfectly adjusted to your greatest comfort!

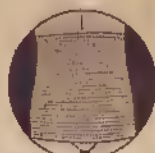


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Rear View
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Where
It
Shows
Most

REDUCE


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**Relaxing • Soothing
Penetrating Massage**

PLUG IN
GRASP
HANDLE
AND
APPLY


UNDERWRITERS
LABORATORY
APPROVED



FOR GREATEST BENEFIT IN REDUCING by massage use SPOT REDUCER with or without electricity—Also used as an aid in the relief of pains for which massage is indicated.

TAKE OFF EXCESS WEIGHT!

**Don't Stay FAT—You Can LOSE
POUNDS and INCHES SAFELY** Without Risking
HEALTH

LIKE a magic wand, the "Spot Reducer" abays your every wish. Most any part of your body where it is loose and flabby, wherever you have extra weight and inches, the "Spot Reducer" can aid you in acquiring a youthful, slender and graceful figure. The beauty of this scientifically designed Reducer is that the method is so simple and easy, the results quick, sure and harmless. No exercises or strict diets. No steambaths, drugs or laxatives.

With the SPOT REDUCER you can now enjoy the benefits of RELAXING, SOOTHING massage in the privacy of your own home! Simple to use—just plug in, grasp handle and apply over just any part of the body—stomach, hips, chest, neck, thighs, arms, buttocks, etc. The relaxing, soothing massage breaks down FAT TISSUES, tones the muscles and flesh, and the increased awakened blood circulation carries away waste fat—helps you regain and keep a firmer and more GRACEFUL FIGURE!

YOUR OWN PRIVATE MASSEUR AT HOME

When you use the Spot Reducer, it's almost like having your own private masseur at home. It's fun reducing this way! It not only helps you reduce and keep slim—but also aids in the relief of those types of aches and pains—and tired nerves that can be helped by massage! The Spot Reducer is handsomely made of light weight aluminum and rubber and truly a beautiful invention you will be thankful you own. AC 110 volts. Underwriters Laboratory approved.

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TRY THE SPOT REDUCER 10 DAYS FREE IN YOUR OWN HOME!

Mail this coupon with only \$1 for your Spot Reducer on approval. Pay postman \$8.95 plus delivery—or send \$9.95 (full price) and we ship postage prepaid. Use it for ten days in your own home. Then if not delighted return Spot Reducer for full purchase price (refund). Don't delay! You have nothing to lose—except ugly, embarrassing, undesirable pounds of FAT. MAIL COUPON NOW!

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OR NO CHARGE**

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Thousands have lost weight this way — in hips, abdomen, legs, arms, necks, buttocks, etc. The same method used by stage, screen and radio personalities and leading reducing salons. The Spot Reducer can be used in your spare time, in the privacy of your own room.

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**SPOT REDUCER CO., Dept. B-202
318 Market St., Newark, New Jersey**

Please send me the Standard Model SPOT REDUCER for 10 days trial period. I enclose \$1.00 upon receipt I will pay postman only \$8.95 plus postage and handling. If not delighted I may return SPOT REDUCER within 10 days for prompt refund of full purchase price.

☐ I enclose \$12.95, Send Deluxe Model, postage pre-paid.

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Address.....

City..... State.....

☐ **SAVE POSTAGE**—check here if you enclose \$12.95 for Deluxe Model. We pay all postage and handling charges. Same money back guarantee applies.

☐ I enclose \$2.95. Send Standard Model.

LOSE WEIGHT OR NO CHARGE

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